Same-Day Surgery®

Covering Hospitals, Surgery Centers, and Offices for More than 25 Years

2006 Index

Accreditation

AAAASF revisions simplify some requirements, APR *SDS Accreditation Update*:3

Credentialing & QI post challenges for office programs, OCT *SDS Accreditation Update*:1

Delays, postoperative complications rank high in percentage of sentinel events, JAN *SDS Accreditation Update*:1

Emergency preparedness standards, others change — AAAHC clarifies number, type of emergency drills, JAN *SDS Accreditation Update*:2

Fixed performance areas listed for random surveys, JAN *SDS Accreditation Update*:1

How one agency meets privileging standards, *SDS Accreditation Update*:3

Items to Have Available for Surveyors, JUN:64

JCAHO changes focus on disaster preparedness — Use of volunteers, review of plans clearly defined, MAY:55

JCAHO tips to avoid medication errors, APR *SDS Accreditation Update*:4

JCAHO to publish separate ASC standards, JUL *SDS Accreditation Update*:4

JCR offers do-no-use abbreviation kit, JAN *SDS Accreditation Update*:4

Joint Commission updates look-/sound-alike list, OCT *SDS Accreditation Update*:4

Last-Minute Joint Commission Clean-Up List, JUN:63

New JCAHO standard requires flu vaccine, AUG:90

New patient safety goals added for next year, AUG:89

Patient safety issues need your attention — Surveyors want to see staff follow policies, OCT *SDS Accreditation Update*:3

Random unannounced surveys end in 2007, APR:48

Rapid response teams are not just for inpatient units, APR *SDS Accreditation Update*:1

Surveyors want to see follow up to studies — Med labels, credentialing, staff training important, OCT:115

Surveyors want up-to-date info, details in documents, JUL *SDS Accreditation Update*:3

Three National Patient Safety Goals present compliance challenge in outpatient surgery, JUL *SDS Accreditation Update*:1

When you go through an unannounced survey, will you sink or soar? JUN:61

You can't bluff your way through patient tracers, JUN:64

Alternative Medicine

Journal Review: Study identifies top 10 herbals used by patients — Surgeons not aware of potential side effects, MAY:58

SDS Studies: Effect of hypnosis on preoperative anxiety in adult ambulatory patients, MAR:322

Anesthesia/Pain management

Clinical guideline on nausea posted on-line, NOV:130

ECRI evaluates anesthesia systems, DEC:143

Minimal sedation cuts costs, improves outcomes, MAR:31

Research help available to study pain — Web-based program provides tools, protocols, MAR:33

SDS Journal Review: Tell patients reason for pre-op fasting, DEC:143

SDS Studies: Duration of anesthesia as an indicator of morbidity and mortality in office-based facial plastic surgery, MAR:32

What do you need for sleep apnea patients? New guidelines address outpatient cases, JAN:10

Cost Containment (Also see *Finances* and *Medicare)*

How do you save money on implants, stay within legal, ethical boundaries? DEC:133

SDS Manager: Want to be cost-efficient? Consider these ideas, JUN:71

You can save a lot of money buying from on-line auctions, but is it a good idea? APR:37

Disaster Preparedness and Response

Emergency preparedness standards, others change — AAAHC clarifies number, type of emergency drills, JAN *SDS Accreditation Update*:2

Hurricanes point out disaster plan weaknesses, MAY:57

JCAHO changes focus on disaster preparedness — Use of volunteers, review of plans clearly defined, MAY:55

When looking for information on a specific topic, back issues of *Same-Day Surgery* newsletter may be useful. If you haven't activated your on-line subscription yet so that you can view back issues, go to www.same-daysurgery.com. On the left side of the page, click on "activate your subscription." You will need your subscriber number from your mailing label. Or contact our customer service department. Telephone: (800) 688-2421 or (404) 262-7436. Fax: (800) 284-3291 or (404) 262-7837. E-mail: customerservice@ahcmedia.com.

Documentation/Tools
Checklists ID supplements and verify safety steps — Pre-op and post-op forms for charts save times, MAY:59
HHS Pandemic Influenza Plan, Supplement 3 Healthcare Planning — Nonhospital Health Care Facilities, OCT:111
ISMP, FDA provide free toolkit to reduce errors, OCT:120
Items to Have Available for Surveyors, JUN:64
Last-Minute Joint Commission Clean-Up List, JUN:63
Research help available to study pain — Web-based program provides tools, protocols, MAR:33
Sample Bylaw: Economic Credentialing, JUL:76

Equipment/Supplies (Also see *Laparoscopy/endoscopy/colonoscopy* and *Technology)*
Argon plasma coagulation minimizes risk of injury, APR:42
CMS approves $50 added fee for new IOL, APR:46
CMS clarifies payment for implants, prosthetics, JUL:81
How do you save money on implants, stay within legal, ethical boundaries? DEC:133
Payment and Billing for Items/Services That Are Not ASC Facility Services, JUL:81
Think twice before buying from [on-line] auctions, APR:40
Value analysis program helps keep down costs, DEC:135
You can save a lot of money buying from on-line auctions, but is it a good idea? APR:37

Finances (Also see *Medicare* and *Reimbursement)*
Upfront efforts result in better collections, JUL:78

Freestanding Centers (Also see ***Medicare* and *Surgical Hospitals)***
AHA deplores migration to outpatient centers, SEP:103
ASC payments to be cut to hospitals' level, FEB:17
Center given moratorium after abuse allegations, AUG:92
Change to HOPD rates to impact specialties, MAY:53
JCAHO to publish separate ASC standards, JUL *SDS Accreditation Update*:4
Some surgeons can open centers or work at the local hospital, but not both, JUL:73
Will centers make money with the move to APCs? MAY:52

Hospital-Based Programs
AHA deplores migration to outpatient centers, SEP:103
CMS final OPPS rule doesn't link inpatient quality, outpatient updates, DEC:133
HOPD rate updated, tied to quality measures, SEP:100
Hospital, docs responsible in impairment case — Doctor fired, then given glowing recommendation, AUG:91
MedPAC recommends 2007 payment update — One system would lose $1.1 million in revenue, MAY:54
Some surgeons can open centers or work at the local hospital, but not both, JUL:73
Surgical site infection rate drops to zero in months, JUN:65

Infection Control
AAMI incorporates several practices into one [on steam sterilization], AUG:88
AORN addresses environment and safety [reuse of single-use devices], MAR:29
Are you prepared for a pandemic? Leading facilities share how to gear up, OCT:109
CDC issues updated TB prevention guidelines, APR *Patient Safety Alert*:2
CDC to conduct survey on outpatient surgery, APR:47
Don't be one of the horror stories — Learn proper use of flash sterilization, AUG:85
Educate your staff, and hold pandemic drills, OCT:113
Educating staff is critical piece [of flash sterilization], AUG:88
Environmental control, education cut infections, JUL:76
Health care workers may imperil patients by snubbing influenza vaccinations, JAN *Patient Safety Alert*:1
HHS Pandemic Influenza Plan, Supplement 3 Healthcare Planning — Nonhospital Health Care Facilities, OCT:111
How to limit spread of respiratory illnesses, OCT:112
New JCAHO standard requires flu vaccine, AUG:90
Surgery providers warned of TASS outbreak, JUN:72
Surgical site infection rate drops to zero in months, JUN:65

Laparoscopy/Endoscopy/Colonoscopy
Blue Cross sued over payment policy — Payments to increase for non-hospital endoscopies, AUG:94
Staff costs affected by mix of staff, tenure — Supply costs also examined in benchmark [colonscopy] study, JUN:69
Study compares business practices, technology use — Cataracts and colonoscopy are focus, JUN:67

Management (Also see *Cost Containment, Disaster Preparedness and Response, Finances, Patient Satisfaction/Public Relations, Quality Improvement/Quality Assurance/Benchmarks, Regulation, Salary/Career, Staffing/Staff Satisfaction,* and *Surgeons*
AHA deplores migration to outpatient centers, SEP:103
AORN addresses environment and safety [reuse of single-use devices, environmental responsibility, patient safety, and tissue banking], MAR:29
Educate office staff to improve [physician] utilization, FEB:23
Liposuction, exercise, and nutrition = good outcomes, NOV:128
Monitor utilization to ID nonproductive surgeons, FEB:22
Operating costs vary widely in MGMA survey, MAR:34
SDS Manager: A tale of two managers — Where is the grass greener? NOV:129
SDS Manager: Want to be cost-efficient? Consider these ideas, JUN:71
SDS Manager Q&A: Do surgeons have to be credentialed at ASC? Also: turnaround, pre-op tests, hoarding supplies, DEC:142
SDS Manager Q&A: Expanding your OR space and others managers' issues — Tips for tackling staffing, profit-sharing, MAY:57
SDS Manager Q&A: Nurse manager retires and other quandaries, FEB:21
SDS Manager Q&A: Questions about bonuses, moving GI procedures — CRNA administrators, lap bands are OK? AUG:95
SDS Manager Q&A: Should you shop for a better deal? Management companies, mergers, and other issues, MAR:35
SDS Manager Q&A: Staff and physician woes, plus question on OR size, JUL:80
SDS Manager Q&A: Time to celebrate reimbursement changes? Q&A:

Expansion, investors, and late staff, OCT:117
SDS Manager Q&A: When to cut the cord with a management company — Also: Moving up, moonlighting, and other issues, APR:45
Staff costs affected by mix of staff, tenure — Supply costs also examined in benchmark study, JUN:69
Study compares business practices, technology use, JUN:67

Medicare
ASC payments to be cut to hospitals' level, FEB:17
Bariatric surgery available to more Medicare patients, APR:46
Change to HOPD rates to impact specialties, MAY:53
CMS adds 14 procedures, but cuts other payments, SEP:100
CMS adds 32 codes, cuts 10 from ASC list, JAN:12
CMS approves $50 added fee for new IOL, APR:46
CMS clarifies payment for implants, prosthetics, JUL:81
CMS final OPPS rule doesn't link inpatient quality, outpatient updates, DEC:133
CMS posts data on ASC payments, OCT:118
HHS: ASC list will include all procedures except for those with risks, overnight stays, FEB:13
Highlights: MedPAC Report on Health Care Spending, SEP:104
HOPD rate updated, tied to quality measures, SEP:100
MedPAC recommends 2007 payment update — One system would lose $1.1 million in revenue, MAY:54
Panel: Insurers favor more costly back pain treatments — CMS doubles rate for less invasive procedure, APR:43
Under proposed rule, ASCs would be paid 62% of the hospital OPD rate, SEP:97
Will centers make money with the move to APCs? MAY:52

New Procedures and Programs (Also see *Laparoscopy/Endoscopy/Colonoscopy* and *Surgeons)*
Bariatric surgery available to more Medicare patients, APR:46
New treatments for the back cut costs, NOV:127
Panel: Insurers favor more costly back pain treatments — CMS doubles rate for less invasive procedure, APR:43
Streams of water balloons offer back pain relief, NOV:125
You must screen patients carefully [for back pain treatments], NOV:126

Nurses (Also see *Patient Education/Consent)*
AORN addresses environment and safety, MAR:29
Boost patient satisfaction: Keep families informed — Liaisons keep everyone up-to-date and informed, JAN:5
Clinical guideline on nausea posted on-line, NOV:130
Massachusetts considering patients-per-nurse limits, JUL *Patient Safety Alert*:1
Nurse liaison must communicate well, JAN:7

Patient Education/Consent
Do you hear me? Do you understand me? Patients don't always process instructions correctly, SEP:101
Environmental control, education cut infections, JUL:76
Has the patient given informed consent? Surgery staff is last line of defense, NOV:121
Nagging questions on informed consent, NOV:123
SDS Journal Review: Tell patients reason for pre-op fasting, DEC:143

Patient Safety (Also see *Infection Control* and *Risk Management)*
Alert addresses medication errors, APR *SDS Accreditation Update*:2
AORN addresses environment and safety, MAR:29
CDC issues updated TB prevention guidelines, APR *Patient Safety Alert*:2
Do you benefit from these surgeries? *Consumer Reports* says maybe not — Magazine tells patients to check out safer alternatives, FEB:13
Drugs can cause problems during cataract surgery, OCT:118
Health care disparities narrow for many, APR *Patient Safety Alert*:2
Health care workers may imperil patients by snubbing influenza vaccinations, JAN *Patient Safety Alert*:1
Hospital reports critical results within one hour, OCT *Patient Safety Alert*:1
ISMP, FDA provide free toolkit to reduce errors, OCT:120
Massachusetts considering patients-per-nurse limits, JUL *Patient Safety Alert*:1
New patient safety goals added for next year, AUG:89
Patient safety issues need your attention — Surveyors want to see staff follow policies, OCT *SDS Accreditation Update*:3
Physiological changes [of elderly] affect reaction to surgery, DEC:139
Programs face challenge with older patients, DEC:138
Rapid response teams are not just for inpatient units, APR *SDS Accreditation Update*:1
SDS Journal Review: Ergonomics research offers patient safety tips, OCT:119
SDS Journal Review: Tell patients reason for pre-op fasting, DEC:143
Study: Quality, patient safety improving at a modest pace, APR *Patient Safety Alert*:1
Three National Patient Safety Goals present compliance challenge in outpatient surgery, JUL *SDS Accreditation Update*:1
Tips for caring for older surgical patients, DEC:140
To tape or not to tape: How do you handle jewelry? OCT:114
What do you need for sleep apnea patients? New guidelines address outpatient cases, JAN:10

Patient/Family Satisfaction/Public Relations
Boost patient satisfaction: Keep families informed — Liaisons keep everyone up-to-date and informed, JAN:5
Center finds way to make holidays more meaningful, NOV:131
Nurse liaison must communicate well, JAN:7
Patients happy with liposuction procedure, SEP:106
SDS Manager: Want to make patients, staff, and surgeons happy? SEP:105
SDS Studies: Effect of hypnosis on preoperative anxiety in adult ambulatory patients, MAR:32
Technology reassures families in waiting rooms, FEB:19
Ticket to satisfaction: Personal movie players, APR:40

Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement/Benchmarks
CMS final OPPS rule doesn't link inpatient quality, outpatient updates, DEC:133
Credentialing & QI post challenges for office programs, OCT *SDS Accreditation Update*:1
Staff costs affected by mix of staff, tenure — Supply costs also examined in benchmark study, JUN:69

Study: Quality, patient safety improving at a modest pace, APR *Patient Safety Alert*:1

Reimbursement (Also see *Medicare)*
Blue Cross sued over payment policy — Payments to increase for non-hospital endoscopies, AUG:94
Panel: Insurers favor more costly back pain treatments — CMS doubles rate for less invasive procedure, APR:43

Risk Management/Medical Errors (Also see *Infection Control* and *Patient Safety)*
3 cases of identity theft involve surgery, emergency departments, MAR:27
3 more procedures article warns against, FEB:16
Adopt a written anti-harassment policy, JAN:8
Argon plasma coagulation minimizes risk of injury, APR:42
Center given moratorium after abuse allegations, AUG:92
Don't simply ignore repeated offenses — Facilities address inappropriate conduct, harassment, JAN:8
Hospital, docs responsible in impairment case — Doctor fired, then given glowing recommendation, AUG:91
How do you save money on implants, stay within legal, ethical boundaries? DEC:133
Identity theft cases jump radically, outpatient surgery is at risk — MAR:25
In light of 2 criminal cases, how do you ensure employees don't abuse patients? JAN:1
ISMP warning: Providers confuse Carpuject syringes, AUG:93
JCAHO tips to avoid medication errors, APR *SDS Accreditation Update*:4
JCR offers do-no-use abbreviation kit, JAN *SDS Accreditation Update*:4
Joint Commission updates look-/sound-alike list, OCT *SDS Accreditation Update*:4
Surgeons less likely to disclose errors, NOV:124
Take these steps to cut liability risk — When staff act suspicious, take action, JAN:4
Think twice before buying from [on-line] auctions, APR:40
You can save a lot of money buying from on-line auctions, but is it a good idea? APR:37
When you have pregnant staff, protect them and their fetuses from harm. Don't put yourself at risk for sex discrimination — Follow suggestions, MAY:49

Salary/Career
Avoid hiring woes by keeping your current good employees, NOV *Salary Survey* Supplement:1

Staff Education
Educate your staff, and hold pandemic drills, OCT:113
Educate office staff to improve [physician] utilization, FEB:23
Educating staff is critical piece [of flash sterilization], AUG:88
Environmental control, education cut infections, JUL:76

Staffing/Staff Satisfaction
Adopt a written anti-harassment policy, JAN:8
Avoid hiring woes by keeping your current good employees, NOV:*Salary Survey* Supplement
Boost patient satisfaction: Keep families informed — Liaisons keep everyone up-to-date and informed, JAN:5
Boost your staff's morale with these ideas, JAN:9
Don't simply ignore repeated offenses — Facilities address inappropriate conduct, harassment, JAN:8
Health care workers may imperil patients by snubbing influenza vaccinations, JAN *Patient Safety Alert*:1
In light of 2 criminal cases, how do you ensure employees don't abuse patients? JAN:1
Massachusetts considering patients-per-nurse limits, JUL *Patient Safety Alert*:1
Nurse liaison must communicate well, JAN:7
SDS Manager Q&A: Expanding your OR space, and others managers' issues — Tips for tackling staffing, profit-sharing, MAY:57
SDS Manager: Want to make patients, staff, and surgeons happy? SEP:105
Tackling staffing, profit-sharing, MAY:57
Take these steps to cut liability risk — When staff act suspicious, take action, JAN:4
Volunteers add extra touch in outpatient surgery, JUL:82
When you have pregnant staff, protect them and their fetuses from harm. Don't put yourself at risk for sex discrimination — Follow suggestions, MAY:49

Surgeons and Office-Based Surgery (Also see *New Procedures and Programs)*
3 more procedures article warns against, FEB:16
Adopt a written anti-harassment policy, JAN:8
Credentialing & QI post challenges for office programs, OCT *SDS Accreditation Update*:1
Don't simply ignore repeated offenses — Facilities address inappropriate conduct, harassment, JAN:8
Educate office staff to improve [physician] utilization, FEB:23
Hospital, docs responsible in impairment case — Doctor fired, then given glowing recommendation, AUG:91
How one agency meets privileging standards, *SDS Accreditation Update*:3
Journal Review: Study identifies top 10 herbals used by patients — Surgeons not aware of potential side effects, MAY:58
Monitor utilization to ID nonproductive surgeons, FEB:22
New organization helps office surgery programs, MAY:60
On-line or on paper — peer review is key, OCT *SDS Accreditation Update*:3
SDS Manager: Want to make patients, staff, and surgeons happy? SEP:105
Some surgeons can open centers or work at the local hospital, but not both, JUL:73
Surgeons less likely to disclose errors, NOV:124

Surgical Hospitals
Final report issued on specialty hospitals, SEP:101
Surgical hospitals finally have good news, JUL:82

Technology
Study compares business practices, technology use, JUN:67
Technology reassures families in waiting rooms, FEB:19